

## **REMARKS**

Claims 11-40 are presently pending in the application. Claims 11, 18 and 20-23 are rejected. Claims 12-17 and 19 are objected to. Claims 18 and 23 have been amended. New Claims 31-40 have been added for examination.

Reconsideration of the objections and rejections set forth in the aforementioned Office Action is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. The basis for the amendments can be found throughout the Specification, Claims and Drawings as originally filed.

### **REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 11, 18 and 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frost (US 4,,694,789). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Applicants respectfully submit that claims 11, 18 and 20-23 are not rendered obvious in view of Frost. On the contrary, Frost fails to disclose many of the elements recited in independent claim 11. In particular, Frost relates to a mechanism for connecting an input shaft to an output shaft and for superimposing on the output shaft a variable oscillatory motion. The various components of the drive mechanism include a transverse sliding member 124, a first sliding block 136 and a second sliding block 136'. The mechanism includes a yoke 148 which is pivotable to move a reaction member from an on-axis position into an off-axis position as defined at Col. 4, lines 30-34. The Examiner has identified element 148 as a crankcase of a piston engine. The Applicants respectfully disagree and refer to the yoke reference above.

Furthermore, Frost does not disclose a crankcase at all and does not refer to a window formed within the crankcase and a flange surrounding the crankcase to define a

first joint face. Frost also fails to disclose a first gear seated on a crankshaft and a second gear seated on a balance shaft. Claim 11 recites a balance unit housing secured to the crankcase where the balance unit housing has a second joint face abutting the first joint face of the crankcase. These features are not discussed in Frost. Claim 11 further recites a balance shaft rotatably supported in the balance unit housing where the second gear seated on the balance shaft projects through the window to engage the first gear. This arrangement is not disclosed in Frost. Lastly, claim 11 recites a gear clearance between the first gear and the second gear being adjusted by displacing the balance unit housing on the first joint face. None of these features are disclosed by Frost. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 103 rejections to claims 11, 18 and 20-23.

#### **NEW CLAIMS**

New claims 31-40 are provided for substantive examination. The Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 31-40 are also allowable in view of the art cited by the Examiner.

#### **ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

Claims 12-17 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 24-30 are allowed.

#### **CONCLUSION**


All of the grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. The Applicants therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner

reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding office action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If it is believed that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1222. Prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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